

News from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department
September 8, 2005
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Adam Burnett, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, (978) 318-8547 September 8, 2005

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING IN DURHAM ON WISWALL DAM AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT

DURHAM, N.H. -- The public will have an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about a proposed aquatic ecosystem restoration project to restore anadromous fish passage and river habitat on the Lamprey River in the vicinity of Wiswall Dam in Durham, N.H., at a public information meeting to be held on September 20 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Durham Town Hall, Town Council Chambers, at 15 Newmarket Road in Durham.

This project is being conducted under Section 206 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996, P.L. 104-303, as amended. The draft Environmental Assessment for this project was released to the public on August 29, 2005, with a 30-day comment period.

The proposed project involves the construction of a nature-like bypass channel to restore anadromous fish passage around Wiswall Dam, allowing anadromous fish access to an additional 43 miles of river habitat upstream of the dam. The bypass channel also is intended to reconnect riverine habitat upstream and downstream of the dam by providing continuous riverine habitat within the constructed channel. The bypass channel will be approximately 1,100 feet long and 15 to 30 feet wide, and will cross Durham town-owned land and private land. Native anadromous fish species potentially affected by the dam include American shad, river herring and Atlantic salmon.

This project is being proposed by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Additional partners include the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, the National Park Service, the Town of Durham, the University of New Hampshire, the Lamprey River Advisory Committee and the Lamprey River Watershed Association.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

- * New Hampshire Fish And Game Department -- Doug Grout, by phone at (603) 868-1095 or email dgrout@nhfgd.org.
- * U.S. Army Corps of Engineers -- Mr. Adam Burnett, by phone at (978) 318-8547 or email adam.w.burnett@usace.army.mil

Information on this project is also available online at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil> under New Hampshire, Projects.

DIRECTIONS to the Durham Town Hall are available in the online version of this press release at the Fish and Game website, <http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us>.

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